(2) The restriction imposed upon the Manager not to allow the strength of any class to exceed 35 and the compulsion to divide the class into two divisions, if the strength exceeds 35 even by only one or two, was working serious hardship. He proposed that the headmasters be permitted the option of retaining the strength up to 40.

Dewan.—We hope to deal with this question.

(3) The treatment meted out to the headmasters of Private schools at the time of the School Leaving Certificate Examination was very regrettable, in that they were not allowed to get into the examination room, but had to stand outside for identifying the pupils. They might well be appointed Superintendents. Otherwise, an assistant teacher might be allowed to identify the students.

Dewan.—The Director says that he will consider this matter.

(4) According to Section 147 of the Code, the grants, were fixed by calculating the fee income as it stood on paper without taking into consideration the scholarships and fee concessions. The Member proposed that the resolution of the Madras Legislative Council in the matter of grants, namely, that 85 percent of the actual fee income should be calculated and that the difference between this and the actual expenditure should be given as grant, should be adopted in this State.

(5) The rule giving the discretion to the Director in the matter of choosing the subject which a teacher may be permitted to teach, when he applies for a license, should be altered so as to allow licenses being given as recommended by the Manager. At present, there were cases in which licenses have been issued to teachers to teach subjects which they were not fit to teach, and the Managers were consequently put to much trouble.

(*i*) *Encouragement to Vernacular Education.* The Member said that higher Vernacular Education was discouraged, in that the standard had been reduced by one step, from eight to seven classes, and he suggested that Vernacular High Schools should be opened with better equipment and staff and that prizes for efficiency should also be offered. Better encouragement should also be given to the teachers in the Vernacular schools.

Dewan's reply.—I am very glad that you have gone through your subject so fully.

An amendment should be made in the Education Code, allowing girls to appear for the School Leaving Examination privately

Mr. Kochupapu Tharakan (Member, Nominated) spoke of the inability of grown-up girls to put in 85 per cent attendance, as they were forced to stay away

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at home for some days in a month. The Member proposed that some laxity in the rules regarding attendance should be made in favour of female students. He then referred to the sentimental objection of parents to sending grown-up daughters to the schools and suggested that, as an incentive to higher education among girls, provision might be made for permitting girls to appear privately for the School Final Examination.

Dewan's reply.—The percentage of attendance fixed for females cannot of course be the same as that for the males. This matter will be attended to. Permission to apply for the School Leaving Certificate Examination, without attendance in a school, cannot however, be given. Without attendance in a school, the certificate can have no value.

Mr. G. Venkitarama Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Vaikom) dwelt on the following points:—

Conditions of the code and remedies proposed

(1) *Primary Education.*—He said that the greatest boon which the new Education Code had given was free Primary Education, but at the same time it had given a death-blow to many private institutions. Before the advent of the Code, there were 3,500 Primary Schools, of which only 411 were departmental. But now there were only 1,270 Primary Schools, of which 478 were departmental. 5,75,000 children were left without instruction for want of schools. He said that the Aided schools were only a danger and not a help to the State, in that they might break down at any moment. He thought that, at least, 5,000 schools were wanted to make free Primary Education a success and he suggested that annually 500 Primary Schools should be opened and located according to demand.

To staff 5,000 schools, 20,000 teachers at least would be required. The pay of the teachers in the Primary Schools was very low and, as such, no one who had passed the Secondary School Leaving Certificate or any higher examination would be available as teachers for the Primary Schools, because better prospects were open to them in the Secondary Schools. The only persons available would be those who had passed the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination. But it was more difficult to get through the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination than the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Examination, because the standard of the former with respect to the Malayalam Language was admittedly equal to that for the B. A. students. It was evident from the small percentage of passes in the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination that the standard was high. There was thus much difficulty to secure even those who had obtained the Elementary

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